

BSP Call for Spotlights

Behavioral Science & Policy (BSP) is pleased to invite proposals for Spotlights on topics related to our [policy areas of focus](#).

Spotlight proposals are requested by **Friday, March 15, 2019, 5pm EST** and will be evaluated by the journal's Senior Editors.

Your Role as the Guest Editor

A Spotlight for *BSP* typically includes four articles. Past Spotlight topics have included [Challenging Assumptions about Behavioral Policy](#), [Pre-Kindergarten Interventions](#), [Policies to Promote Ethical Behavior](#), and Community Health and Health Disparity

As the Guest Editor for a Spotlight, you will develop and submit the Spotlight proposal, take the lead in forming the review team for the Spotlight, and will maintain both authors and reviewers on task. Importantly, in your role as Guest Editor for a Spotlight, you should ensure that your invited authors become familiar with the format of *BSP*, as *BSP* articles are shorter in length than traditional academic articles, and the tone is quite different since it is intended to communicate rigorous social science findings to policy makers who can use those findings in practice.

Preparing a Proposal for a *BSP* Spotlight

Potential Guest Editor(s) who would like to propose a Spotlight for *BSP* are invited to prepare a proposal as outlined below and submit it to the *BSP* editorial team at bspa@behavioralpolicy.org.

Those wishing to propose a Spotlight should prepare a 1-2 page proposal that includes the following:

- Spotlight title and Guest Editor(s) information: name(s), title(s), affiliation(s) and contact information.
- List of proposed paper titles, with authors and abstracts. Note that we seek a minimum of 4 committed abstracts for a Spotlight proposal.
- A brief description of how the Spotlight fits within the scope of the journal, as well as how the proposed papers make a coherent set.
- The identification of 2-3 *BSP* [editorial board members](#) who could serve as part of the Spotlight review team.

Please contact *BSP* Spotlights Senior Editor, Dr. Morela Hernandez with any questions: HernandezM@arden.virginia.edu.

Issuing a Call for Papers

Since the *BSP* Senior Editors will need to review the abstracts before the Spotlight proposal is approved, please state in any calls for papers that “the *BSP* journal editors have ultimate responsibility for vetting papers for final inclusion in the Spotlight” and that “The Spotlight is currently in the proposal stage and not yet accepted.”

Manuscript Approval Process

After your Spotlight proposal is accepted, you will work with your authors and reviewers to develop polished manuscripts, after which each manuscript will be reviewed by the *BSP* Senior Editors. The acceptance of a Spotlight proposal does not imply approval of the component manuscripts.

Finally, some of our Spotlight Guest Editors choose to hold workshops or design conference symposia to accelerate the development of accepted proposals. This is an option we encourage Guest Editors to consider; bringing policymakers, practitioners & scientists together to brainstorm and give each other feedback on manuscripts has been a productive best practice for past Spotlights.